

THE SALT LAKE HERALD-REPUBLICAN

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AN OBLIGATION ON THE REPUBLIC.

Far fall the day when the people can get accustomed to such a catastrophe as that at the coal mine in Cherry, Illinois. Far fall the day when such a loss of human life can be dismissed with routine happenings; when it shall be an intrusion to speak of it a week after it has occurred.

The loss of life there, even if all the missing shall be found alive, is far too large for the nation to contemplate with indifference. No employer would risk his horses and mules and baled hay as he risked human life in that mine. And what is true of the Paul Jones mine is true of every mine not equipped with provision for the safety of the men while at work, and their escape when fire or flood or other visitation comes to them. Every capitalist would reflect that his mules represented his money, and he would make sure they would not be sacrificed.

The United States of America must give to labor an opportunity to live; to live like freemen. Men must be assured of the opportunity not alone to procure food and clothing, but they should be able to marry, to provide for their children as the children of freemen must be if the nation's freedom be maintained.

When men ask for work in a mine, they have no chance to dictate conditions. The conditions are there before them; ready made; fixed and unalterable for the individual. He may take them or leave them. In fact and in practice, he has to take them. He goes into the mine on the proprietor's terms. And the nation owes it to the nation itself to see that the terms are such as can be accepted with safety to the life and security to the republic. It will not do to send three hundred men into a mine where they may be killed without a chance for their lives.

If the country treats labor badly, labor will treat the country badly later on. This is not the expression of anarchy. It does not need follow that labor will "rise" and exact bloody penalty for its mistreatment. That is not needed. But if the nation is in part composed of citizens so neglected as that, the nation will suffer simply because of the low grade to which it reduces those citizens.

Make safe the lives of men in the mines. For the sake of the nation into which they have entered as freemen, give to men the same consideration that is given to property—at least. And the necessity for that more interests the nation than the miners—by far.

RATHER WASH THAN WORSHIP.

At the city jail on Sunday the prisoners would not come out and take even the smallest part in the religious services that were being conducted by a number of excellent people from one of the churches. They remained in the bath rooms, and cleansed themselves. They would rather wash than worship.

Well, they might have done worse. The recording angel probably made an entry to the credit of the church people who came. Their labor was as arduous as it would have been had they received the most profound attention from the entire population of the city jail. So far as the visitors were concerned, they did their work. Doubtless they will be credited with it.

And the prisoners, with the same recording angel, will with equal likelihood get credit for that cleanliness which is next to godliness. There is a worship in the clean skin. Every man has a better chance to think clean thoughts when his body is clean. He has a lesser chance when his body is foul.

Whether the prisoners went to the wash in preference to going to the service is quite beside the question. The church people went to the jail, and rendered their task. The prisoners later came downstairs, clean, clothed and in their right minds. The church people were none the worse for being ignored. And the men in jail are better for the thoroughness with which they performed their ablutions.

And it may be both will learn something valuable: The church people that it is not fair to corner a man in jail and preach his sins at him; the men, that the people who come there to hold service do it because they have a wish to do good.

"FOLLOW THE LIGHTS."

That's what the manager of the Food and Industrial exposition says: "Follow the lights." The lights can be seen from far up and down Main street. They make a sort of trail. You pick up the trail at Main and First South streets. It leads you west to Richards street, and then north to the door of the exposition building. Go inside, and your quest is ended. The Trail has done its duty. You are in the presence of the foods and the industrial products of the state of Utah.

The Agricultural college is raising a cluster of lights over the previously dark subject of dry farming. If men would make use of the resources of the state, they will "follow the lights." By doing so, they will find themselves able to raise thirty bushels of wheat to the acre on ground that costs practically nothing. If they "follow the lights" they will be able to raise peaches—as

some beyond-Nephi men now are doing—on ground that never gets a bit of the blessing of irrigation.

The University of Utah is lifting and maintaining a whole candelabrum of lights for the leading of the young men and the young women of the state. By following that light, they may make themselves better than they have been in the past; better than their fathers and mothers have been—because more capable for the discharge of tasks that rest upon them.

The national and the state governments are uniting to kindle a whole firmament of lights leading to the reclamation of the lands of the state of Utah; to developing the mines of the state; to encourage the utilization of the resources of Utah. And all citizens who love their state are in peace and industry "following the lights."

THE INLAND PRINTER.

There is one publication which should be in every newspaper office in the state of Utah—The Inland Printer. It costs money, and cannot be secured without that preliminary. But it is like a number of other things in the world. It is worth more than it costs.

Every country paper in the state is conducted in conjunction with a job printing office. The man with the Inland Printer before him every month is sure to find suggestions of practical value in his work. The editor will find helpful hints for his part of the tasks. The pressman, the solicitor, the business manager—every one connected with the place, will be made stronger and more capable by the monthly visits of that publication.

And that is true whether the shop is equipped with every convenience, or whether it is struggling along with less of material than it should have. It is the expression of practical members of the printer's craft. It is the result of knowing how, in every department of the printing work.

We said a few days ago that some of the country papers in Utah should be a little better than they are. The Inland Printer will help them to reach that goal.

ANOTHER WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

Some man rises to propose that the school children of the United States be asked to contribute a penny apiece to a fund for the erection of a \$3,000,000 monument to George Washington.

And the Denver Republican doesn't look with a great deal of favor on the scheme, as may be gathered from the following:

George has a better monument than any ever built of bronze or stone or concrete blocks, one which is grander, nobler and more enduring than any pyramid of Cheops. It is the republic to which he gave shape and substance and prepared to outlast time. If the children of the land would have a hand in rearing a monument to the father of their country, let them be so taught in their schools, so imbued with love of country, so firmly rooted in the essential principles of good government, that when they become men and women every one of them will be a working factor for the perpetuation of all that George Washington worked and fought to incorporate into our form of government.

The suggestion that school children be invited to contribute doesn't commend itself to the country generally. It will be remembered that one R. J. Thompson some years ago carried the same sort of proposition through, and secured a very fine fund for the erection of a bronze monument to Lafayette, to be unveiled in Paris, a city to which the noble marquis was partial in his lifetime. The proposer of the plan had the indorsement of some of the rich and honored men of the nation. The money was contributed, and after years of waiting, after tremendous labor of collecting the pennies and nickels and dimes of the school children, the Lafayette monument was unveiled—and was found to be plaster of Paris!

It will be better to wait a few hundred years till the scandal of that Lafayette wickedness shall have been lost before the school children be again drafted to provide a soft thing for any work-dreading promoter.

TWO WAYS OF LOOKING AT IT.

Here is the way the Salina Call looks at the matter:

The Herald-Republican is very kind to the country papers of the state, as well as helpful. It recognizes them and their good work, which is a good deal. This paper does, and most others should, take to heart its criticisms of a few days ago. Of all our exchanges the Herald-Republican is the most coveted and the first to be read.

And here is the way it appeals to the Eastern Utah Advocate, published at Price:

For the benefit of The Herald-Republican, it must not be out of place to remark that better country newspapers might be made in Utah if the latter received the patronage to which they are justly entitled, and which are in a measure "hogged" by the hyphenated publication at Zion.

You see, it takes all kinds to make a world.

GOVERNOR BRADY'S STATUS.

We are a good deal interested and some amused at an appreciation of Governor James Brady, in the Pend d'Oreille Review, the same being a newspaper in Idaho. We don't happen to get the Review on exchange, and find the article in another Idaho paper presumably, supposed to be friendly to the governor.

The Review man has the kindness to admit that the governor "has put through some things that were winners," and instances the primary law and the local option statutes. Also James is given credit for advocating a "better taxation system, and a railroad commission." It is said that few of the "better government fads" have escaped him. But a strict regard for honesty forces the Review editor to add that the governor may not in his heart believe the things he professes, and he goes farther, and says: "There may be other men in the party who would make a better governor; there are some." But it adds, instantly, as if the thought of invidious comparisons bounded back-

ward of its own force: "But Brady is still governor, and he is doing as good a job of it as some have done who have gone that way before him, and a whole lot better than some of his newspaper critics would make."

Talk about "damning a man with faint praise!" Surely the governor of Idaho has learned by practical experience what that means.

But for all of the left-handed compliments, we are of opinion that James Brady, governor of Idaho, is as big as his office—and the people of his state are very fortunate to have in the executive chair a man of his ability, honesty and effectiveness.

WHY NOT ELECT A BOSS?

Former Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte, once more a citizen of Baltimore, believes it would be a good thing for the people to elect a boss in every state to take care of the public interests, and then quit all participation in politics. He believes that if the people got a good boss, he would provide for them better than they can provide for themselves.

Which is a confession that Mr. Bonaparte does not believe the people to be capable of self government. And there are times when that conclusion is a fairly reasonable one. Even in republican-democratic America, there is a good deal to be said in favor of the absolute monarchy. Our forefathers didn't fight the Revolutionary war because of the hardness of fate, but because they wanted to manage the job themselves. They didn't throw overboard the tea in Boston harbor because the tax on it was more than they could pay and live; and they didn't cross the Delaware because there was anything better on the other side. But they believed the time had come for men to govern themselves.

That is all. And that is all they are working for now. They know they are not doing a perfect job of it, and they don't expect the job will be perfect for a good many years. They realize they will have to learn, and then have to cultivate the habit of doing the best they can—which is by no means a common trait in human nature, here in America, nor anywhere else.

Very likely a good boss would get better service for the people than they can get for themselves. But they want to get it themselves. That is the point. They don't want a boss. Therefore, they will oppose the boss idea with the last drop of their blood.

Mr. Bonaparte's eminent relative, the first emperor of France, was a better boss than either Louis had been. But underneath all the revolution and the restoration and the subsequent struggles of France dwelt the desire of the French people to manage their own affairs. And they are still trying to approach perfection.

Very likely they won't reach it for some little time. Neither will we of America. But some time the ideal will be realized, and all that the most benign absolute monarch could do will be done by the people themselves.

And if that isn't true, then we will have to admit that no people in all the world are capable of governing themselves.

CUT OUT COLORADO.

That "development congress" recently held at Grand Junction, Colo., should not soon be forgotten in Utah. The published plan of it contemplated united work by the people of western Colorado and of eastern Utah. State Senator Brinkerhoff was one of the Utah delegates to the "congress," and he was told from the platform, after he got there, that the Utah delegates would be permitted to take part only "by courtesy." They were no part of the "congress," and Colorado proposed to exclude them. It is gratifying to know that Senator Brinkerhoff took them at their word, and absented himself from the remaining sessions of the "congress."

For a good many years Colorado has made it pretty clear to the people of Utah that it had no need for them except to bring money. And a decent regard for the opinions of men make it necessary to add that Utah can get along quite as well as Colorado under the terms of separate maintenance. We don't need anything Colorado has, and the quicker we convince them they can't have anything of Utah without paying for it, the better it will be for this state.

That expression of boorishness displayed at Grand Junction in connection with the "development congress" should be accepted as the final word from Colorado.

The thing for our people to do is to develop their own state, and ignore the "by courtesy" route to needless indignities at the hands of arrogant promoters in Colorado.

GET READY FOR THE CENSUS.

All over the United States cities are preparing for the United States census of 1910 by annexing such contiguous territory as is properly a part of their several cities.

That is the duty of Salt Lake. The need for it is recognized everywhere. Men all over the world will take the federal census reports for the size of Salt Lake. They will not accept our city directory, fair as it admittedly is. They will not take the school census. They will not be guided by the reports of the postoffice. The districts—however populous—that are not within the corporate limits of the city will not be counted.

And the city will suffer for the next ten years unless these districts to the south are made a part of Salt Lake. Let us all get ready for the census. Let us gather within the city of Salt Lake all the territory which by duty and obligation, by benefits received and responsibilities conferred, is actually a part of Salt Lake.

Then the whole world will know the creditable truth about the city.

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